

In the Specification

Add reference numbers in lines 21 and 22 of page 8 as shown in the following substitute paragraph.

Referring now to Figure 9, the collar **15** is preferably shaped so that each projection **16** has an axially medial hump **45** gradually formed by an inwardly facing surface **46** tapering or gently sloping from its distal extremities **47** to the hump. This tapered surface forms an angle **A** from the vertical of between about 1 and 5 degrees. This shape allows for easier insertion of oversized outlet tubes into the fitting since an upper portion **47** of the prominence is more outwardly located than lower portion **45** near the hump. The outer surface **48** of the collar is shaped to have a axially medial bulge **49** so as to cause greater radial stiffness in the axially medial portion **50** of the collar. As shown in Figure 10, this causes a deformation of the central hump of the projection **37** thereby causing more flattened zone of contact **51** with the outlet tube **41**.